

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

DETAILED AND COMPLETE LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A preventive or therapeutic agent for inflammatory bowel disease comprising an interleukin-6 (IL-6) antagonist as an active ingredient.
2. (Original) The preventive or therapeutic agent according to claim 1 wherein the IL-6 antagonist is an antibody against IL-6 receptor.
3. (Original) The preventive or therapeutic agent according to claim 2 wherein the antibody against IL-6 receptor is a monoclonal antibody against IL-6 receptor.
4. (Original) The preventive or therapeutic agent according to claim 3 wherein the antibody against IL-6 receptor is a monoclonal antibody against human IL-6 receptor.
5. (Original) The preventive or therapeutic agent according to claim 3 wherein the antibody directed against IL-6 receptor is a monoclonal antibody against mouse IL-6 receptor.
6. (Currently Amended) The preventive or therapeutic agent according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 2 to 5 wherein the antibody against IL-6 receptor is a recombinant antibody.
7. (Original) The preventive or therapeutic agent according to claim 4 wherein the monoclonal antibody against human IL-6 receptor is PM-1 antibody.

8. **(Original)** The preventive or therapeutic agent according to claim 5 wherein the monoclonal antibody against mouse IL-6 receptor is MR16-1 antibody.

9. **(Currently Amended)** The preventive or therapeutic agent according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 2 to 4 wherein the antibody against IL-6 receptor is a chimeric or humanized antibody against IL-6 receptor.

10. **(Original)** The preventive or therapeutic agent according to claim 9 wherein the humanized antibody against IL-6 receptor is a humanized PM-i antibody.

11. **(Currently Amended)** The preventive or therapeutic agent according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 1 to 10 wherein the inflammatory bowel disease is Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis.

12. **(Original)** An agent for suppressing weight loss in inflammatory bowel disease said agent comprising an IL-6 antagonist as an active ingredient.

13. **(Original)** An agent for suppressing weight loss in inflammatory bowel disease said agent comprising an antibody against IL-6 receptor as an active ingredient.

14. **(Original)** A method of preventing or treating inflammatory bowel disease which method comprises administering an interleukin-6 (IL-6) antagonist to the subject.

15. **(Original)** The method according to claim 14 wherein the IL-6 antagonist is an antibody against IL-6 receptor.

16. **(Original)** The method according to claim 15 wherein the antibody against IL-6 receptor is a monoclonal antibody against IL-6 receptor.

17. **(Original)** The method according to claim 16 wherein the antibody against IL-6 receptor is a monoclonal antibody against human IL-6 receptor.

18. **(Original)** The method according to claim 16 wherein the antibody against IL-6 receptor is a monoclonal antibody against mouse IL-6 receptor.

19. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 15 to 18 wherein the antibody against IL-6 receptor is a recombinant antibody.

20. **(Canceled)**

21. **(Canceled)**

22. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 15 to 17 wherein the antibody against IL-6 receptor is a chimeric antibody or a humanized antibody against IL-6 receptor.

23. **(Canceled)**

24. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 14 to 23 wherein the inflammatory bowel disease is Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis.

25. **(Original)** A method of suppressing weight loss in inflammatory bowel disease which method comprises administering an IL-6 antagonist to the subject.

26. **(Original)** A method of suppressing weight loss in inflammatory bowel disease which method comprises administering an antibody against IL-6 receptor to the subject.

27. **(Original)** The use of an interleukin-6 (IL-6) antagonist for the production of a preventive or therapeutic agent for inflammatory bowel disease.

28. **(Original)** The use according to claim 27 wherein the IL-6 antagonist is an antibody against IL-6 receptor.

29. **(Original)** The use according to claim 28 wherein the antibody against IL-6 receptor is a monoclonal antibody against IL-6 receptor.

30. **(Original)** The use according to claim 29 wherein the antibody against IL-6 receptor is a monoclonal antibody against human IL-6 receptor.

31. **(Original)** The use according to claim 29 wherein the antibody against IL-6 receptor is a monoclonal antibody against mouse IL-6 receptor.

32. **(Currently Amended)** The use according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 28 to 31 wherein the antibody against IL-6 receptor is a recombinant antibody.

33. **(Original)** The use according to claim 30 wherein the monoclonal antibody against human IL-6 receptor is PM-i antibody.

34. **(Original)** The use according to claim 31 wherein the monoclonal antibody against mouse IL-6 receptor is MR16-1 antibody.

35. **(Currently Amended)** The use according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 28 to 30 wherein the antibody against IL-6 receptor is a chimeric or humanized antibody against IL-6 receptor.

36. **(Original)** The use according to claim 35 wherein the humanized antibody against IL-6 receptor is a humanized PM-i antibody.

37. **(Currently Amended)** The use according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 27 to 36 wherein the inflammatory bowel disease is Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis.

38. **(Original)** The use of an IL-6 antagonist for the production of an agent for suppressing weight loss in inflammatory bowel disease.

39. **(Original)** The use of antibody directed against IL-6 receptor for the production of an agent for suppressing weight loss in inflammatory bowel disease.

Please add the following new claims:

40. **(New)** The method according to claim 22 wherein the inflammatory bowel disease is Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis.

41. **(New)** The method according to claim 17 wherein the antibody against IL-6 receptor is a chimeric antibody or a humanized antibody against IL-6 receptor.

42. **(New)** The method according to claim 41 wherein the inflammatory bowel disease is Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis.